(c) The Government has put in place several measures to help our small enterprises become globally competitive. These include special focus on areas such as technology upgradation, infrastructure assistance through cluster approach, timely availability of credit, adoption of modem management practices, use of electronic infrastructure and other IT applications, marketing and timely information dissemination, including sensitization of small industries to the emerging challenges of trade liberalization.

Mini Tool Rooms and Training Centres in the Country'

†3059. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scheme is being implemented by centre to set up mini tool rooms and training centres in different States of the country ;

(b) if so, names of places where these tool rooms and training centres have **so** far been set up during the last five years ;

(c) whether any proposal with regard to set up mini tool room and training centre in Madhya Pradesh is under Central Government's consideration; and

(d) whether, keeping in view the vast tract of Madhya Pradesh, Government would accord approval for setting up of mini tool room and training centre for Gwalior, Jabalpur, Raipur and Bhopal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir No such proposal has yet been finalised.

(c) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a proposal for setting up mini tool rooms at Gwalior, Jabalpur, Raipur and Bhopal.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

Employment Scheme of KVIC

†3060. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state ;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that scheme has been formulated by Khadi and Village Industries Commission to provide employment to people in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) the number of villages where employment has been provided to people with assistance from Commission during the last three years and the target for the current year;

(c) whether the hilly districts of the State have also been covered under this scheme ; and

(d) if so, the number of beneficiaries and number of villages as well ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far, about 40,000 villages in Uttar Pradesh have been covered under Khadi and Village Industries Programme, The employment provided for the last three years in Uttar Pradesh and target for the current year (2000-2001) is given asunder :—

(In lakh persons)

Year	Cumulative Employment
1997-98	10.21
1998-99	10.51
1999-2000 (Estimated	10.87
2000-2001 (Target)	11.35

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The employment generated in hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh under KVI progranjme as on 31-3-1999 is 39392 and 2447 villages are covered in this region.

Priority to Border districts for SSI

3061. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDAR :

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH :

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state whetlier Government are intending to declare border districts of Punjab viz., Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Ferozepur